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Agenda item 112 (e)
Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections: election of 47 members of the Human Rights Council

Note verbale dated 11 April 2006 from the Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretariat

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations and has the honour to notify the latter that the Government of the Republic of Indonesia has decided to put forward its candidacy for membership in the Human Rights Council, the elections to which are to be held by the General Assembly on 9 May 2006.

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Annex to the note verbale dated 11 April 2006 from the Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretariat

28 April 2006

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations and, with reference to the Permanent Mission's note dated 11 April 2006, has the honour to attach a document of Indonesia's voluntary pledges and commitments (see enclosure).

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations has further the honour to request the Secretariat to kindly circulate the document among States Members of the United Nations.

Enclosure

Commitments and voluntary pledges of Indonesia in the field of human rights

As a reflection of its strong commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights, the Government of the Republic of Indonesia decided to present its candidature for membership of the Human Rights Council. The elections will be held by the General Assembly on 9 May 2006.

Indonesia is the third largest democracy and has the world's largest Moslem population which forms part of a mosaic state firmly rooted on the principle of religious freedom and tolerance.

Indonesia was a member of the UN Commission of Human Rights during the period of 1991-2002 and has been re-elected to its current membership in 2004. Indonesia has played an important and constructive role in the work of the Commission. In 2005, Indonesia has further rendered its contribution through its chairmanship of the 61st Session of the Human Rights Commission. It also plays an active role in the discussions, dialogues and cooperation in the field of human rights in other regional and global fora.

Indonesia is a State Party to all principal human rights instruments, namely the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; the Convention of the Rights of the Child; the Convention Against Torture; the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination; the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. It has acceded to or ratified all the ILO core conventions on human rights.

Indonesia has a robust National Commission on Human Rights since 1993 and has established other human rights-related national commissions such as on the Rights of the Child and on Women's Rights. Indonesia is currently implementing nation-wide human rights mainstreaming programmes.

Indonesia is proud of its vibrant human rights civil society organizations and its free and dynamic press as important pillars of democracy.

Indonesia has incorporated detailed provisions on human rights in its State constitution and in other national legislations. It has national blue prints for the promotion and protection of human rights since 1998, and is now implementing its second national human rights action plan for the period of 2004-2009. In order to ensure an effective and coordinated implementation of the national human rights action plan throughout Indonesia, in addition to the existing National Committee as the coordinating agency in the capital, regional committees were already put in place at the province and district levels in 30 out of the 33 provinces of the country.

At the regional and international levels, Indonesia has supported many important human rights initiatives and plays an instrumental role in working towards the establishment of a regional human rights mechanism, including in ASEAN. Indonesia also actively promotes bilateral and plurilateral dialogues on human rights with various countries, as well as interfaith dialogue and cooperation at regional, inter-regional and global levels.

Pledges at international level

- Indonesia will continue to do its utmost to ensure the effective promotion and protection of human rights at the international level through genuine dialogue and cooperation, based on the principles of non-selectivity and impartiality, as well as on the universality, indivisibility and inter-relatedness of all human rights.

- Indonesia will continue its efforts to respect and support the international human rights instruments through the signing, accession or ratification of those instruments outlined in its national plan of action of 2004-2009, namely: Convention for the Suppression of Trafficking in Persons; Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families; Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Children on the Sale of Children, Child Pornography and Child Prostitution; Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflicts; Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide; Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court; Convention on the Status of Refugees; Protocol to the Convention on the Status of Refugees.

- Indonesia will constructively engage in the work of Human Rights Council including in the process of reviewing mandates, functions and mechanisms it inherits from the Human Rights Commission as well as in elaborating the modality of the universal periodic review mechanism. In addition, Indonesia will fully cooperate with the Human Rights Council in the universal periodic review mechanism.

- Indonesia will work to ensure that all human rights, civil, political, economic, social, cultural rights and the rights to development are given equal emphasis in the work of the Human Rights Council.

- Indonesia will work to ensure that cultural and religious values of all states and communities are taken into account in the deliberation on human rights issues, in the context of promoting tolerance, respect for and freedom of religion and belief.

- Indonesia will continue to work and fully cooperate with relevant treaty monitoring bodies, through the timely submission of its national reports and implementation of their recommendations.

- Indonesia will continue to lend its support to the work of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

- Indonesia will continue to actively promote dialogues on interfaith cooperation at the regional, interregional, and global level.

- Indonesia will continue its efforts in the strengthening the role of civil society in the promotion and protection of human rights at the regional and international level.

Pledges at national level

- Indonesia will continue to implement its second National Plan of Action on Human Rights 2004-2009 consisting of 146 strategies on human rights of: (i) ratification of international instruments (ii) harmonization of domestic laws (iii) education and dissemination (iv) application of norms and standards (v) strengthening of the institutional framework and (vi) monitoring, evaluation, and reporting.

- Indonesia reaffirms its commitment to further strengthening of good governance and the rule of law.

- Indonesia will do its utmost to fully implement all international human rights instrument to which it is a party.

- Indonesia will continue to actively support national, regional and international processes that promote and protect women's rights and the rights of the child. It will continue to intensify its attempts in eliminating discrimination against women and in applying zero tolerance for violence against women.

- Indonesia will continue to strengthen its fight against human trafficking both at the national, regional and international levels.

- Indonesia will continue to strengthen the effectiveness of the newly established institutions such as the Constitutional Court, the National Law Commission, the Judicial Commission, the Prosecutorial Commission, the Police Commission, the Ombudsman Commission and the Anti-Corruption practices Commission.

- Indonesia will maintain its efforts in the strengthening of its engagement and partnership with national civil society in the promotion and protection of human rights.

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Agenda items 9, 82, 87, 94, 95, 97 and 110

Report of the Security Council

Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

General and complete disarmament

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization

Security Council
Sixty-first year

Letter dated 27 April 2006 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and pursuant to my letter No. 094 dated 17 March 2006 (A/60/730-S/2006/178), I wish to inform you that the use of false pretexts by various senior officials of the United States of America to make public and illegal threats of resort to force against the Islamic Republic of Iran, is continuing unabated in total contempt of international law and fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations. These insolent threats have even entered a new phase with the publication of the recent news in United States newspapers revealing the consideration of nuclear strikes in the United States' aggressive policy against the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the subsequent refusal of senior United States officials to deny it.

In this regard, on Tuesday, 18 April 2006, in a question-and-answer session in the White House, when asked whether United States options regarding Iran "include

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the possibility of a nuclear strike" and whether his Administration is planning for such a prospect, President George W. Bush refused to rule out a United States nuclear strike on Iran and instead replied, "All options are on the table." Moreover, on Thursday, 20 April 2006, the Secretary of State of the United States, Condoleezza Rice, speaking to the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations, and in reply to a question on Iran said " ... we are prepared to use measures at our disposal — political, economic and others", and yet again she reiterated the United States President's view that "all options remain on the table".

Such dangerous statements, particularly those of the President of the United States, widely considered in political and media circles as a tacit confirmation of the shocking news on the Administration's possible contemplation of nuclear strikes against certain targets in Iran, defiantly articulate the United States policies and intentions on the resort to nuclear weapons in contravention of international law, the Charter of the United Nations, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and other United States multilateral undertakings on negative security assurances.

In view of the past illegal behaviour of the United States, these assertions yet again constitute matters of extreme gravity that require an urgent, concerted and resolute response on the part of the United Nations and particularly the Security Council. It is indeed regrettable that past failures of the United Nations in responding to these illegal and inexcusable threats have emboldened senior United States officials to go further and even consider the use of nuclear weapons as an "option on the table".

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 9, 82, 87, 94, 95, 97 and 110, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) M. Javad **Zarif**